LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS

200 W. Washington, Suite 301 Indianapolis, IN 46204 (317) 233-0696 http://www.in.gov/legislative

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6054 NOTE PREPARED: Nov 8, 2007

BILL NUMBER: HB 1054 BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Coverage for Individuals less than 24 Years of Age.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Brown C BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL IMPACT: State & Local

DEDICATED FEDERAL

<u>Summary of Legislation:</u> This bill requires a state employee health plan, an accident and sickness insurer, and a health maintenance organization (HMO) to, upon request, provide coverage for certain individuals who are less than 24 years of age. It makes conforming amendments.

Effective Date: Upon passage.

Explanation of State Expenditures: Among other provisions, the bill provides that a state employee health plan must provide coverage of an individual who has or had a blood relationship with the state employee or who is dependent on the policyholder. Because the potential population that has or had a blood relationship with a state employee or that is dependent on the policyholder has the potential to be great, the rate increase that insurers, if they participate, may elect to impose could also be significant. The specific impact is indeterminable.

The increase may not necessarily imply additional budgetary outlays since the state's response to increased health benefit costs may include (1) greater employee cost-sharing in health benefits; (2) reduction or elimination of other health benefits; and (3) passing costs onto workers in the form of lower wage increases than would otherwise occur. It is unknown at this time if the state would absorb added costs or pass the costs on to employees.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: School corporations and local governments purchasing health benefit coverage could incur increased expenditures. The specific impact is indeterminable, but would depend on

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current health care coverage. It is unknown if local units would absorb this cost or pass the cost on to employees, as cost sharing of health benefit premiums varies widely by locality.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: All.

Local Agencies Affected: Local governments and school corporations.

<u>Information Sources:</u> Sharon Mukes, Account Service Manager, and Susan Kost, Legal Department, Eyemed Vision Care, 513-765-3888.

Fiscal Analyst: Bernadette Bartlett, 317-232-9586.

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